GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1248
ANSWERED ON:03.08.2006
MEDICAL TOURISM .
Renge Patil Shri Tukaram Ganpatrao;Thummar Shri Virjibhai

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Government has constituted any Task Force with a view to promoting India as Health Tourism Destination across the world;

(b) If so, the details thereof;

(c) The achievements made so far in this regard; and

(d) The other steps contemplated by the Government to promote medical tourism?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SMT. AMBIKA SONI)

(a) & (b): A Task Force, headed by Secretary (Health) with Senior Officials of Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Ministry of Tourism and experts in the medical field has been constituted to assess the opportunities and to recommend action to be taken by the Government and private industry for promoting India as a health tourism destination.

(c): The Sub-Committees on accreditation and price banding constituted by Ministry of Tourism have submitted their reports with the accreditation norms and price banding worked out for identified hospitals and identified specialized medical services. Indian Healthcare Federation, a Non-Governmental Organisation affiliated to the Confederation of Indian Industry, on advice by Government, has prepared a guide on select Indian hospitals of the country, which could be used for health tourism purposes.

(d): The other steps taken by the Government to promote medical tourism include promotion in overseas market through brochure, CDs, films and other publicity materials, introduction of new category of 'M'-Visa for medical treatment purposes to foreign tourists coming to India, specific promotion at various international travel fairs such as World Travel Mart, London and ITB, Berlin etc.